

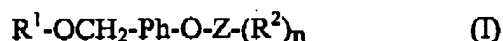
Appl. No.: 09/856,835
Group Art Unit: 1623
Applicants' Reply to Paper No. 11

In the Claims:

Please amend claim 24, without prejudice, as shown below in the following complete listing of all claims ever presented. This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the instant application:

Claims 1-23 (Canceled):

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): A salicyl alcohol derivative of the formula (I):



wherein R^1 represents a hydrogen atom or a $C(O)R^3$ group, wherein R^3 represents an alkyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkylalkyl, aralkyl or aryl group having from 1 to 26 carbon atoms and/or from 1 to 10 heteroatoms, and wherein R^3 may be unbranched or branched, mono- or polyunsaturated and/or may bear substituents on the carbon chain and/or at the heteroatoms; Ph represents a 1,2-phenylene group; Z represents a sugar hemiacetally attached to the 1,2-phenylene group and substituted up to n-times by R^2 , wherein the sugar may comprise a mono-, di-, oligo- or polysaccharide; n is an integer between 0 and m, wherein m is equal to the number of free hydroxyl groups present in the sugar; wherein each R^2 independently represents a hydrogen atom or a $C(O)R^4$ group wherein R^4 is independently selected from the same group as R^3 ; R^1 and R^2 may be the same or different; with the proviso that at most one of the two substituents R^1 or R^2 is hydrogen when Z is glucose; with the proviso that where Z is glucose and R^2 is hydrogen, R^1 is not an acetyl, a benzoyl or a (1-hydroxy-6-oxo-2-cyclohexen-1-yl)carbonyl; with the proviso that where R^1 is hydrogen, Z is glucose and n equals 1, [and] the glucose unit is substituted by R^2 at its primary hydroxy group[,] and R^2 is not 4-phenylbutyryl or a hydrophobic aromatic carboxylic acid moiety.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The salicyl alcohol derivative according to claim 24, wherein at least one of the two substituents R^1 and R^2 is a hydrogen atom, or a benzoyl, phenylacetyl, phenylpropionyl, phenylbutyryl, phenylvaleroyl, o-, m- or p-hydroxybenzoyl, o-,

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m- or p-hydroxyphenylacetyl, o-, m- or p-hydroxyphenylpropionyl, o-, m- or p-hydroxyphenylbutyryl, o-, m- or p-hydroxyphenylvaleroyl, 3,4,5-trihydroxybenzoyl, 3-phenylacryloyl, o-, m- or p-hydroxy-3-phenylacryloyl or 3-(3,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-acryloyl group.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented): The salicyl alcohol derivative according to claim 24, wherein n equals 1 and R¹ is hydrogen.

Claim 27 (Previously Presented): The salicyl alcohol derivative according to claim 25, wherein n equals 1 and R¹ is hydrogen.

Claim 28 (Previously Presented): The salicyl alcohol derivative according to claim 24, wherein Z is a monosaccharide selected from the group consisting of threose, erythrose, arabinose, lyxose, ribose, xylose, allose, altrose, galactose, glucose, gulose, idose, mannose, talose, and fructose.

Claim 29 (Previously Presented): The salicyl alcohol derivative according to claim 28, wherein Z is D-glucose.

Claim 30 (Previously Presented): The salicyl alcohol derivative according to claim 24, wherein R¹ is hydrogen, Z is glucose, and n equals 1.

Claim 31 (Previously Presented): A process for the production of the salicyl alcohol derivative of claim 24, the process comprising: esterifying or transesterifying with a carboxylic acid R³COOH and/or R⁴COOH, a carboxylic acid ester R³COOR⁵ and/or R⁴COOR⁵, or an activated carboxylic acid derivative, an alcohol of the formula (II), in the presence of a suitable catalyst:



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wherein Ph, Z, R³, and R⁴ are as defined for formula (I), and R⁵ represents an alkyl group having from 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

Claim 32 (Previously Presented): The process according to claim 31, carried out by enzyme-catalyzed esterification or transesterification.

Claim 33 (Previously Presented): A method of preparing a cosmetic or pharmaceutical preparation, comprising: preparing the salicyl alcohol derivative according to claim 24, and combining the derivative with a cosmetically or pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 34 (Previously Presented): A method of inhibiting prostaglandin synthesis, comprising: applying a prostaglandin synthesis inhibitive amount of a cosmetic or pharmaceutical preparation comprising the salicyl alcohol derivative according to claim 24 to a host in need of prostaglandin synthesis inhibition.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): A cosmetic or pharmaceutical preparation, comprising the salicyl alcohol derivative according to claim 24 and a cosmetically or pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.